

Contact

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## **CITY OF STOCKTON RECEIVES \$16,800 IN USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, Missouri State Director, USDA Rural Development presented the City of Stockton with a \$16,800 mock check on October 26, 2010. The funds were awarded to the City of Stockton to purchase two early warning sirens for the community. The assistance consists of an Economic Impact Initiative Grant (EII) and a Community Facilities Disaster Grant totaling \$16,800 from USDA Rural Development's Community Facility Program. Additionally, the city contributed a total of \$13,828 towards the total cost of \$30,628 for both sirens. The City of Stockton has a population of 1,960. In May of 2003, it was hit by a devastating tornado.

Few communities understand better than Stockton the cost to lives and property when Mother Nature turns deadly," said U.S. Senator Kit Bond. "The new emergency warning system these federal dollars will fund will help ensure Stockton residents are prepared and protected."



Pictured, left to right: Kim Burton, Area III Specialist, Rural Development; Patsy Thompson, Mayor, City of Stockton; Janie Dunning, State Director, Rural Development; Kelly Gregory, Area III Director, Rural Development; Arlo Rupke, Cedar County and City of Stockton Emergency Director; Greg Fidler, North Ward Alderman; and David Rauch, Office of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.

"I am pleased to hear that with the help of competitive grant funds provided by the USDA, Stockton will have two new warning sirens in the event of an emergency," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "Ensuring the citizens of Stockton have the proper equipment for emergency preparedness is crucial to the needs of the community."

"Without question, early warning systems save lives when severe weather and other emergencies strike. These new early warning sirens will be an essential tool to help the City of Stockton protect local residents and improve overall emergency preparedness," said U.S. Representative Ike Skelton.

"This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the needs of a community in providing an early warning system," said Dunning. "This project mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to

personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that the residents of the City of Stockton will have the benefit of these sirens.. Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials for making available the federal funds for these kinds of projects.”

Anyone seeking more information about the Community Facility Program or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.gov/mo> or by contacting the Clinton Area Office at 1306 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Clinton, MO 64735 or by calling (660) 885-5567- ext 5.

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

**“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”**

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